

Family Fun in Mansfield

January, February, March & April 2012

Special Notes

- **Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry** (486-4605) (bimp.uconn.edu) is located on the UConn Depot Campus and will be open to the public Fri., Sat. & Sun., 12n-5pm beginning Sun., March 25 with 2 new exhibits: *Frank Ballard – Roots & Branches*; and *Pauline Benton's Collection of Chinese Shadow Puppets*. Be sure to check out BIMP's special Puppet Forums as well as puppetry workshops for children, schools, adults and school groups.
- **Community School of the Arts** (486-1073) (csa.uconn.edu) offers a wide variety of classes for children of all ages plus Art Birthday Parties, Home Schooling and Scout Classes. Call for a copy of their 2011/2012 program brochure.
- **CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center** (486-4460) (mnh.uconn.edu) features a multi-media exhibit – *Human's Nature: A Closer Look at the Relationship Between People and the Environment* – on the 2nd floor, and is open Mon.-Fri. 10am-4pm (closed Sat. & Sun.). Call for a copy of their Winter 2012 program brochure, which includes many programs for children (listed individually in the calendar below).
- **Husky Heritage Sports Museum** (486-2240) (uconnalumni.com), in the UConn Alumni Center, brings alive remarkable images & stories of UConn's winning teams, determined coaches & gifted student-athletes, and is open Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm.
- **Mansfield Parks and Recreation Dept.** (429-3015) (mansfieldct.org) has many classes, programs and activities for young children. Check the brochure that is sent to every household for Winter 2012 offerings (including snow-day activities, after-school programs) & information about **fee waivers** for eligible Mansfield residents.
- **Mansfield Public Library** (423-2501) (biblio.org/mansfield) offers 3 drop-in program series for children: *Infant & Toddler Time* (birth-age 3 w/caregiver), Fridays, 10:30am-12n, Jan. 6 - March 23; *Family Storytime* (all ages with caregiver), Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am, January 7 – April 28 (but **NOT** March 31); *Wonderful Wednesdays* (all ages with caregiver), Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30am, January 18-April 11 (but **NOT** March 28). Check the website and at the library for special programs for young children and their families.
- **Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum**, UConn (486-2712) offers skating lessons for ages 4 and up from Jan. 15 to March 11. Call or check the website for the general skating schedule, which changes frequently.
- **Storrs Farmers Market** (StorrsFarmersMarket@gmail.com) is now open *two* Saturdays each month (Jan. 14 & 28; Feb. 11 & 25; March 10 & 24; April 14 & 28) in the Buchanan Auditorium of the Mansfield Library from 3-5pm. Come for local winter food & products from old and new vendors!
- **UConn Co-op** (486-5027) (bookstore.uconn.edu) has a large selection of children's books.
- **UConn EEB** (=Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) **Greenhouses** (486-4052) (eeb.uconn.edu), on the UConn campus, house a huge collection of live plants from all over the world. Open to the public: Mon.-Fri., 8am-4pm.
- **UConn Libraries** (lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits) offer exhibits that might be of interest to adults and children.
- **William Benton Museum of Art** (486-4520) (thebenton.org) is open Tues.- Fri., 10am-4:30pm, Sat. & Sun., 1-4:30pm. Exhibits of interest to children: 1) *Women of New England: Dress from the Industrial Age, 1850-1900* (Jan. 17-March 11); and 2) *From Objects to Object: Found Sculpture by Leo Sewell* (March 22-May 20). Also check out the 2 family events on Feb. 18 & April 17-20 (listed below).

For more information about the events listed in this calendar, check the following sources:

BIMP = Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry (UConn) (486-4605) (bimp.uconn.edu)
CANR = College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UConn) (486-2413) (cag.uconn.edu)
CSA = Community School of the Arts (486-1073) (csa.uconn.edu)
CSMNH = CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center (486-4460) (mnh.uconn.edu)
CT4-H = CT 4-H Program, UConn (486-4127) (4-H.uconn.edu/calendar.html)
EOS = E.O. Smith High School (487-0877) (eosmith.org)
JCPA = Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts (UConn) (486-4226) (jorgensen.ct-arts.com)
MMS = Mansfield Middle School (429-9341) (mansfieldct.org)
MPRD = Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department (429-3015) (mansfieldct.org)
SCongC = Storrs Congregational Church (429-9382 x16) (storrscongchurch.org)
SFM = Storrs Farmers Market(StorrsFarmersMarket@gmail.com)
WBMA = William Benton Museum of Art, UConn (486-4520) (thebenton.org)

Many of the following programs require advance registration and/or fees. Call ahead!

Fee waivers are available to eligible Mansfield residents for most Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department programs (429-3015). Scholarships may be available for other fee-based programs listed here.

JANUARY 2012

Jan. 11 (Wed.), 6:30pm – Grades K-12 String Fling (string concert) @ Mansfield Middle School Cafeteria (**MMS**)
Jan. 12 (Th.), 7pm – E.O. Smith student Band concert in the EOS auditorium (**EOS**)
Jan. 14 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library (**SFM**)
Jan. 14 (Sat.), 4-9pm – Parents' Night Out: activities and pizza for grades K-5 at the Community Center (**MPRD**)
Jan. 20 (Fri.), 5-8pm – FREE Mansfield Days @ the Community Center; for Mansfield residents of all ages (**MPRD**)
Jan. 20 (Fri.), 6-9pm – Winter Family Fun Night; family fun in the gym, pool and community room (all ages) (**MPRD**)
Jan. 21 (Sat.), 8pm – UConn Puppet Slam for the whole family @ School of Fine Arts Studio Theater, UConn (**BIMP**)

Jan. 21 (Sat.), 9:30am-12:30pm – BIG tag sale at Goodwin Elementary School! Re-use, recycle, repurpose! **(429-6316)**
Jan. 28 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
Jan. 29 (Sun.), 7pm – 18th Cello Festival Concert @ von der Mehden Recital Hall, UConn; all ages welcome! **(CSA) (JCPA)**

FEBRUARY 2012

Feb. 3 (Fri.), 11am-2pm – 32nd Annual **One Ton Sundae** outside the UConn Student Union; BRRR and YUMMM! **(486-3423)**
Feb. 3 (Fri.), 6-9pm – Winter Family Fun Night; family fun in the gym, pool and community room (all ages) **(MPRD)**
Feb. 3 (Fri.), 7pm – **The City Dark** – a film about light pollution and the disappearing night sky; in EOS auditorium **(MPRD)**
Feb. 4 (Sat.), 11am-2pm – Winter Fun Day: skating; snow sculpture and MORE! (bad weather date Feb. 11) **(MPRD)**
Feb. 4 (Sat.), 1-3pm – Feet, Hooves & Paws - Winter animal tracking with a naturalist for people of all ages! **(MPRD)**
Feb. 5 (Sun.), 11am-2pm -- FREE Mansfield Days @ the Community Center; for Mansfield residents of all ages **(MPRD)**
Feb. 10 (Fri.), 6pm – Annual Valentine's Dinner. Reservations suggested; orders to go. Why cook at home? **(SCongC)**
Feb. 10 (Fri.), 7-9pm – 10th Annual Father/Daughter Valentine's Dance @ Mansfield Middle School cafeteria (all ages!) **(MPRD)**
Feb. 10 (Fri.), 7:30pm – Performance of the musical **Pippin** by the E.O. Smith Drama Club in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 1:30pm – Performance of the musical **Pippin** by the E.O. Smith Drama Club in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 3pm – Footprints on the Land: The Imprint of Culture on CT's Landscape; illus. talk (8&up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 4-9pm – Parents’ Night Out: activities and pizza for grades K-5 at the Community Center **(MPRD)**
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 5 & 7pm – Annual Valentine's Dinner. Reservations suggested; orders to go. Why cook at home? **(SCongC)**
Feb. 12 (Sun.), 1 & 3pm – **Clifford the Big Red Dog**; a BIG family musical. Plus fun & games 1 hr. before the show! **(JCPA)**
Feb. 12 (Sun.), 1:30pm – Performance of the musical **Pippin** by the E.O. Smith Drama Club in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
Feb. 16 (Thurs.), 7-9:30pm – E.O. Smith H.S. student Orchestra concert in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
Feb. 18 (Sat.), 2-4pm – Vogue, Victorian Style: A Family Event. Creative hands-on activities for all ages! **(WBMA)**
Feb. 21 (Tues.), 7:30am-5:30pm – Recreation Rescue @ MMS for grades K-8; games, crafts and more **(MPRD)**
Feb. 23 (Thurs.), 7pm – EOS student Choral concert; a special Black History program. In the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
Feb. 25 (Sat.) – State 4-H Sheep Project Clinic, UConn (call or check website to confirm location and time) **(CT4-H)**
Feb. 25 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
Feb. 25 (Sat.), 6-9pm – Winter Family Fun Night; family fun in the gym, pool and community room (all ages) **(MPRD)**

MARCH 2012

March 3 (Sat.), 3pm – Life in the Deep Sea as Seen from [the submersible] **Alvin**; illustrated talk (ages 8 & up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**
March 10 (Sat.), 8am – Intercollegiate Horse Show @ Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn **(CANR) (486-3377)**
March 10 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
March 11 (Sun.), 1 & 3pm – **The Magic School Bus: The Climate Challenge**. Plus fun & games 1 hr. before the show! **(JCPA)**
March 13 (Tues.), 7pm – Spring Country Dance: MMS fiddlers and a professional caller (all ages with adult) **(MMS)**
March 17 (Sat.), 7:30am-6pm – Bus trip to Boston for a day to explore on your own! **(register by Feb. 23) (MPRD)**
March 17 (Sat.), 10am-12n – Scientific Illustration – Insects! Learn from a scientific illustrator (ages 8 & up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**
March 17 (Sat.) & 18 (Sun.) – CT Horse Symposium @ UConn (check website for further information) **(CANR) (486-3377)**
March 17 (Sat.) – State 4-H Horse Bowl Contest @ UConn (call or check website to confirm location and time) **(CT4-H)**
March 17 (Sat.) -- State 4-H Dairy Beef Day @ UConn (call or check website to confirm location and time) **(CT4-H)**
March 17 (Sat.), 4-9pm – Parents’ Night Out: activities and pizza for grades K-5 at the Community Center **(MPRD)**
March 22 (Thurs.), 5pm – Performance of **Wise Men of Chelm** by E.O. Smith Drama Club in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
March 23 (Fri.), 6-9pm – Winter Family Fun Night; family fun in the gym, pool and community room (all ages) **(MPRD)**
March 23 (Fri.), 6-9pm -- FREE Mansfield Days @ the Community Center; for Mansfield residents of all ages **(MPRD)**
March 23 (Fri.), 7-9:30pm – Star Party @ the UConn Planetarium; bring binoculars & dress warmly **(MPRD)**
March 24 (Sat.), 12n-5pm – **World Fest!** Music, food, games, activities; FUN for all ages! Check for UConn location **(486-3855)**
March 24 (Sat.), 1-3pm – Seeds of Discovery: Archaeobotany & Ancient Mesopotamia; hands-on! (ages 8&up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**
March 24 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
March 25 (Sun.), 12n-5pm – Gala opening of the Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry for the season; new exhibits! **(BIMP)**
March 25 (Sun.), 5pm – Performance of **Wise Men of Chelm** by E.O. Smith Drama Club in the EOS auditorium **(EOS)**
March 26 (Mon.), 7:30am-5:30pm – Recreation Rescue @ MMS for grades K-8; games, crafts and more **(MPRD)**
March 31 (Sat.), 9am-4pm – Friends of the Mansfield Library Book Sale @ Buchanan Center; **LOTS** of children’s books! **(MPL)**

APRIL 2012

April 1 (Sun.), 9am-3pm – Friends of the Mansfield Library Book Sale @ Buchanan Center; **LOTS** of children’s books! **(MPL)**
April 14 (Sat.), 7am-10:30pm – Bus trip to New York City for a day to explore on your own! **(register by March 23) (MPRD)**
April 14 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library **(SFM)**
April 14 (Sat.), 10am-c.3pm – E. CT Draft Horse Assoc. 2012 Plow Match behind Mansfield Supply, Rte. 195 **(860-908-4669)**
April 14 (Sat.), 11am – Bioluminescent Squid: Symbiosis under the Sea; illustrated talk (ages 8 & up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**

April School Vacation Camps, Workshops, Activities (April 16-20)

Contact: Community School of the Arts (486-1073; continuingstudies.uconn.edu/csa); Holiday Hill Day Camp (423-1375; holidayrecreation.com); Mansfield Parks & Recreation Dept. (429-3015; mansfieldct.org); Mansfield Public Library (429-2501; biblio.org/mansfield); The William Benton Museum of Art (486-4520; thebenton.org)

April 17 (Tues.)-20 (Fri.), 1-4pm – **Draw On!** Fun-filled drawing event for all ages and levels of ability! **(WBMA)**
April 20 (Fri.), 4pm – Performance of the musical **Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs** by CSA students **(CSA)**
April 21 (Sat.), – State 4-H Goat Day @ UConn (call or check website to confirm time and location) **(CT4-H)**
April 21 (Sat.), 10am-12n – The Artificial Termite Gut: Hi-Tech Exploration of Microbes & Biofuels (10&up w/adult) **(CSMNH)**
April 22 (Sun.), 1pm & 3pm – **Darwin the Dinosaur**; a glow in the dark adventure + fun & games 1 hr. before the show! **(JCPA)**

April 22 (Sun.), 3pm – Take Note! Choral Concert @ Storrs Congregational Church to benefit Women's Club of Storrs (**228-2390**)
April 28 (Sat.) – State 4-H Hippology & Horse Judging Contest @ UConn (check to confirm location and time) (**CT4-H**)
April 28 (Sat.), 11am-4pm – Horse Auction + Tack & Equipment Tag Sale @ Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn (**CANR**) (**486-2034**)
April 28 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library (**SFM**)
April 28 (Sat.), 4-9pm – Parents' Night Out: activities and pizza for grades K-5 at the Community Center (**MPRD**)
April 29 (Sun.), 4-5pm – 275th Anniversary Premiere Concert@ Storrs Congregational Church (**SCongC**)

Family Fun in Mansfield is compiled by Becky Lehmann for Mansfield Advocates for Children. Please contact her (423-5807; slehmann@snet.net) if you wish to suggest items for future editions. Publication of ***Family Fun in Mansfield*** is supported by a grant from the William Caspar Graustein Memorial Foundation.